

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-05 L-02 IGA-01 DEAE-00

JUSE-00 TRSE-00 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4229

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 0700

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, EC

SUBJ: NARCOTICS: UPCOMING NARCOTICS PROGRAM AGREEMENT

REF: A. STATE 245086; B. QUITO 0035 AND 0847

1. USAID NARCOTICS CONTROL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS GUZMAN AND GROOM HAVE BEGUN NEGOTIATION OF NEW PROGRAM AGREEMENT WITH HEAD OF NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION OF NATIONAL POLICE. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT UNDER THE UPCOMING AGREEMENT AND WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE NEW POLICE REORGANIZATION LAW, AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER AND EFFECTIVENESS OF ECUADOR'S NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICERS WILL BE OBTAINED IN 1975.

2. IN REFERENCE "B", EMBASSY REPORTED ON THE DISPOSITION OF THE EQUIPMENT PROVIDED TO THE GOE FOR USE IN NARCOTICS CONTROL AND, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT HAD A DETAILED REPORT ON VEHICLE USE FROM COLONEL VACA, WE ARE SATISFIED THAT THE GOE IS DOING ALL IT CAN TO INSURE THAT THESE MATERIALS ARE USED FOR THE PURPOSES THEY ARE MEANT TO SERVE. THE CHART MENTIONED IN REFERENCE "B" AND MAILED TO THE DEPARTMENT CONCLUSIVELY ILLUSTRATES THIS GOE INTEREST.

3. IN THE BILATERAL MONTHLY MEETINGS OF PERSONS IN THE EMBASSY AND IN THE GOE WHO DEAL WITH NARCOTICS MATTERS, WE HAVE HEARD REPEATEDLY OF THE GROWING GOE INTEREST IN
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THE INTERDICTION OF ILLICIT NARCOTIES TRAFFIC. THIS

VERBAL COMMITMENT FINDS ITS CONCRETE EXPRESSION IN THE SEIZURES REPORTED FOR 1974: 168 KILOS OF COCAINE IN 1974 AND AS COMPARED WITH 65 KILOS OF COCAINE IN 1973 AND 1149 KILOS OF MARIHUANA IN 1974 AS COMPARED WITH 989 KILOS IN 1973. FURTHERMORE, 4192 COCAINE PLANTS WERE DESTROYED.

4. THIS TELEGRAM IS MEANT TO PROVIDE A JUSTIFICATION FOR THE RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR COMMODITIES FOR ECUADOR'S NARCOTICS CONTROL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. WE ARE REASONABLY SATISFIED THAT WHAT HAS BEEN PROVIDED IS BEING, IN GENERAL, WELL USED AND ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM WILL GROW SIGNIFICANTLY IN THIS YEAR. WE ARE ALSO CONVINCED THAT OUR REPEATED INQUIRIES WITH RESPECT TO COMMODITY DISPOSITION HAVE SERVED TO MAKE GOE AWARE OF OUR KEEN INTEREST IN CORRECT USE OF MATERIALS WE PROVIDE AND OUR DESIRE FOR FULL AND COMPLETE ACCOUNTING WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE ITEMS. WE BELIEVE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WANTS THIS PROGRAM AND IS PLEASED AT THE GROWING INTEREST OF THE GOE. WE BELIEVE THAT THE COMMODITIES ARE AN IMPORTANT, OR PERHAPS, KEY ELEMENT IN THE COOPERATION OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AGAINST ILLICIT NARCOTICS TRAFFIC AND ASK THAT AUTHORIZATION OF THESE FUNDS BE PROVIDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
BREWSTER

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